(d) whether Indian Airlines and Air India are providing capital and other expenses to Vayudoot; if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Vayudoot has been operating 36 services everyday during the last three months touching 75 stations and carrying 35,000 passengers and approximately 16,500 kgs. of cargo per month. The operational fleet of aircraft of Vayudoot during the last three months was as follows:—

Dornier—228	9
F—27	2
HS—748	4

(b) Whereas Vayudoot had made a marginal profit of Rs. 6 lakhs during the year 1986-87, the loss estimated in the budget estimates, 1987-88 is Rs. 1.20 crores.

(c) While there is scope for the expansion of Vayudoot services, actual expansion will depend on availability of aircraft capacity, developed infrastructure etc.

(d) The paid up capital of Vayudoot which stood at Rs. 13.5 crores on 31.3.1987 was contributed in the ratio of 50:50 by Air India and Indian Airlines.

Losses incurred by Pawan Hans Corporation

1926. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pawan Hans Corporation is incurring loss; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the strength of the fleet of Pawan Hans; whether it is well utilized;

(c) whether it is overstaffed and whether the staff pattern is comparable with such services of other countries; and

(d) wether it is a fact that operational cost of helicopter is higher as compared to aircraft; if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Pawan Hans Ltd. (formerly Helicopter Corporation of India) set up on 15th October 1985 has incurred losses because a high incidence of depreciation reserve had to be allowed for the full year in 1986-87, while revenue generation began only after the phased induction of helicopters from September, 1986.

(b) On a standard norm of 80 per cent serviceability, Pawan Hans should have deployed 30 helicopters of the 37 received so far. The number of helicopters deployed and those expected to be deployed shortly is 29.

(c) Information about the staffing pattern in the helicopter units of other countries is not available. Keeping in view the nature of operations and the large number of bases from which it operates, the organization is not overstaffed.

(d) Yes, Sir. Helicopters have a higher fuel consumption and larger maintenance cost, because of the large number of dynamic componets which need frequent replacement.

Heart treatment by RUD in G. B. Pant Hospital, Delhi

1927. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state·

(a) whether a major break-through in the treatment of heart ailment, *viz.*, insertion of device—Rashkind Umbrella Device (RUD) has been achieved in G. B. Pant Hospital, Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?